THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) In terms of an agreement entered into between State bank of India (SBI) and Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU), Lisbon, sealed packets containing the 'security' for gold loans was repatriated to India in August, 1991.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No interest for the period for which the gold/jewellery remained with BNU, Lisbon has been paid by BNU to the borrowers.

(d) and (e). The Goans had taken gold loans from the then branches of BNU in Goa against the security of gold ornaments. In all such cases, the interest is payable by the borrowers and not by the bank.

[*English*]

**Deductions Made by Coffee Board**

2937. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deductions made by he Coffee Board from coffee growers for marketing expenses such as cost of storing, curing, marketing and also statutory taxes and duties are much higher than all other such boards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) he steps proposed to be taken by the Government to minimise such deductions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The actual marketing expenses of coffee are deducted from the total sales realisation before making payments to the coffee growers for the value of the coffee delivered by them. The marketing expenses are around 5 percent of the total realisations. Such centralised marketing is not done by he Tea, Rubber or Spices Board.

(c) The steps being taken to minimise marketing expenses include identification and phasing out surplus staff, stoppage of new recruitment, surrendering of telephones etc.

**Import of Newsprint**

2938. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to double the import of newsprint to meet the country's demand;

(b) whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been prepared for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the main points of the proposed plan; and

(d) the quantity of newsprint imported during 1990-91 and proposed to be imported during the next three years,

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Dose not arise.

(d) The quantity of newsprint imported during 1990-91 and 1991-92 alongwith the names of the countries of import are given below:-